

What is claimed is:

1. A backup device in case of power failure in an image recording apparatus for alternately writing input image data or its compressed data in two memories for each block including data corresponding to a plurality of fields, reading out, every time data corresponding to one block are written into the memory, the data from the memory into which the data corresponding to one block have been written, and recording the data read out on a recording medium, comprising:

a backup power supply in case of power failure;

a power failure detecting circuit for detecting that power fails;

a power supply circuit connected to the backup power supply through switching means and supplying power to a portion required to continue at least a recording operation on the basis of the backup power supply;

means for continuing, when the power failure is detected by the power failure detecting circuit during the recording operation, the recording operation by turning the switching means on; and

means for turning the switching means off when the data which have been stored in both the memories

immediately before power fails and all the data composing the two blocks to which the data belong have been recorded on the recording medium, to stop the recording operation.

2. The backup device in case of power failure according to claim 1, wherein the backup power supply is a battery, further comprising

a charging circuit for charging the battery on the basis of a commercial power supply when the power to the image recording apparatus is turned on.